

My point of this is, Mr. Speaker, this national historical park Kalaupapa, I wish every Member of Congress would go and visit, just like my colleague from Hawaii, Congresswoman HIRONO. It's one of the most beautiful areas and sites that anybody would ever want to see north of the island of Molokai.

I wanted to share this with my colleagues because this Kalaupapa is not as unknown as some people may think or believe, and I thank the gentlewoman from Hawaii for having this proposed bill, that we should build a memorial to the thousands of Native Hawaiians and other races who had also contracted this dreaded disease and should be recognized for the sacrifices that they have had to make.

With that, Mr. Speaker, again, I thank my good friend from Arizona for giving me time to speak.

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support the passage of H.R. 3332, the Kalaupapa Memorial Act of 2007. This measure would authorize Ka Ohana O Kalaupapa to establish a memorial to honor those who were forcibly relocated to Kalaupapa.

Kalaupapa is a National Historical Park located on a remote peninsula of northern Molokai. From 1866 through 1969, about 8,000 people afflicted with Hansen's disease, previously known as leprosy, were relocated to the area now known as Kalaupapa National Historical Park.

Many of the first settlers faced a harsh and difficult life. But the patients who were sent to Kalaupapa eventually built a community that allowed them to endure a life cut off from parents, children, brothers, sisters and friends. Even after medication was developed to control Hansen's disease, many patient residents chose to continue living in Kalaupapa.

The site became a national park in 1980 and is dedicated to preserving the memories and lessons of the past. Kalaupapa is a living memorial to a community that once lived in extreme isolation. It now serves as a place of education, contemplation and quiet beauty. Unfortunately, many of the residents who finished their life in Kalaupapa do not have recognizable graves or grave markers. The memorial established by this bill would serve as a permanent marker and reminder of all 8,000 residents who lived on Kalaupapa.

A little more than 20 patients remain in Kalaupapa. As time passes, the number of former residents of Kalaupapa gets smaller, as do the number of people who remember this part of Hawaii's history. With each passing, the sense of urgency for erecting a memorial becomes more and more heightened. We need to pass this bill as soon as possible so that this memorial becomes a reality before the passing of the next Kalaupapa resident.

My colleague Representative MAZIE HIRONO has worked tremendously hard to bring this bill to the floor today. I commend her efforts and would also like to express my gratitude to Representative NICK RAHALL, Chairman of the Natural Resources Committee, and Representative RAÚL GRIJALVA, Chairperson of the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands. We would not be here today were it not for their support and enthusiasm. I wholeheartedly support this bill, am proud to be an original cosponsor and ask my colleagues for their support of H.R. 3332.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3332, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DECLARATION OF MUIR WOODS NATIONAL MONUMENT

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 868) recognizing the 100th anniversary of the declaration of Muir Woods National Monument by President Theodore Roosevelt.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 868

Whereas Congressman William Kent of California recognized the transcendent beauty and national significance of the coastal redwood trees and he set aside his private land for future generations;

Whereas Congressman Kent donated his lands to be known as Muir Woods in the State of California as the first National monument, presenting them to the United States Government as a gift to the people of the United States;

Whereas Muir Woods provides a keystone for conservation stewardship and a rich natural laboratory to explore the philosophy of its namesake, the admired conservation activist John Muir;

Whereas Muir Woods was recognized 100 years ago to be "of extraordinary scientific interest and importance because of the primeval character of the forest and the character, age and size of the trees";

Whereas the Kent donation made it possible for President Theodore Roosevelt to exercise one of the Nation's most unique preservation tools, the Antiquities Act, by declaring Muir Woods National Monument for the American people;

Whereas Muir Woods National Monument is preserved today through the dedicated staff and volunteers of the National Park Service;

Whereas on May 19, 1945 international delegates to the historic Charter Convention of the United Nations met in the beauty and peace of Muir Wood's Cathedral Grove to open the convention and honor the memory of the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt; and

Whereas in 1972 Muir Woods National Monument became part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and today attracts up to a million visitors annually: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the United States House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the foresight of President Roosevelt in using the Antiquities Act in declaring Muir Woods National Monument;

(2) recognizes the 100 years of careful preservation of America's Coastal Redwood for-

est within Muir Woods National Monument; and

(3) recognizes the natural and historical importance of the Muir Woods National Monument in the State of California and to the Nation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

House Resolution 868, introduced by our colleague from California, Representative LYNN WOOLSEY, recognizes the beauty and the significance of Muir Woods National Monument on its 100th anniversary. Muir Woods National Monument preserves one of the last remaining ancient redwood forests on the Pacific Coast and in the world.

The coast redwood is the tallest species of tree in the world and one of the oldest. The mature trees of the Cathedral and Bohemian groves in Muir Woods reach heights of 250 feet and average between 600 and 800 years in age, with the oldest believed to be at least 1,100 years old.

In 1905, Congressman William Kent, who later went on to introduce the bill that would establish the National Park Service, purchased the land where Muir Woods stands, recognizing the beauty, value, and significance of an uncut, old-growth redwood forest. Eventually, Congressman Kent donated 295 acres to the Federal Government.

On January 9, 1908, using the Antiquities Act, President Roosevelt declared Kent's donated land a national monument, proclaiming that the groves of the redwoods were of "extraordinary scientific interest and importance because of the unique character of the forests and the character, age, and size of the trees."

President Roosevelt wanted to name the new monument for Congressman Kent, but Kent insisted that it be named after the venerable conservationist John Muir, who sought to protect some of America's most iconic landscapes for their inherent national beauty. These ancient trees now offer a silent, yet powerful, testimony to Muir's ideals.

Mr. Speaker, I commend and congratulate my colleague Representative WOOLSEY, for her commitment and leadership on this matter. We strongly support passage of House Resolution 868 and urge its adoption by the House today.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Arizona has adequately explained the bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY), the sponsor of the bill.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, my district, just across the Golden Gate Bridge north of San Francisco, includes 100 percent of Marin County and 80 percent of Sonoma County, where we are blessed with many environmental treasures. In fact, it is one of the most beautiful places on Earth, and it is just across the bridge from one of the largest cities in our country.

In this area we have a stand of old-growth redwoods known as Muir Woods, and we consider this our crown jewel. Muir Woods is nearly 300 acres of what I refer to as "Heaven on Earth" where its natural beauty has been preserved and protected for everyone to enjoy so that we can enjoy the trees, which are mostly redwoods that stand over 250 feet tall and are, as the chairman just told you, as old as 1,100 years. That is why I am so pleased that Congress is considering H. Res. 868 today, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of President Teddy Roosevelt's declaration of Muir Woods as a national monument.

It is fitting that we honor the centennial of Muir Woods on the floor of the House of Representatives, because it was the actions of Congressman William Kent who represented Marin County at that time who made the national monument possible. William Kent privately owned the land where Muir Woods now stands, and he and his family donated it to the Federal Government to ensure its protection. I am proud to say that 100 years later Congressman Kent's vision is still going strong.

The leadership in conservation that William Kent showed 100 years ago is a valuable lesson for us today. Imagine all the national wonder that could have been saved in the last 100 years, wonders like Muir Woods, that we could be enjoying today had more people been as selfless as he. We in Congress have the power to ensure that 100 years from now people can look back and applaud new conservation efforts.

Mr. Speaker, Muir Woods is a unique sanctuary for the protection of one of Earth's greatest wonders, the coastal redwoods; and its preservation is to be commended. I want to thank Chairman RAHALL, Chairman GRIJALVA, Ranking Member YOUNG, and Mr. BISHOP for bringing my resolution here to the floor today, because working together, Mr. Speaker, working together today, we will ensure that 100 years from now our grandchildren, our great grandchildren and their children will enjoy the Muir Woods bicentennial.

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 868, honoring the 100 year anniversary of the Muir Woods National Monument.

Throughout his life, John Muir was concerned with protecting nature to enhance the spiritual side of civilization and progress. His words and deeds led to the establishment of the U.S. National Park System. In addition, John Muir was the founding president of the Sierra Club, which remains one of the leading American grassroots organization for protecting wilderness and the human environment.

On January 9, 1908, President Theodore Roosevelt declared the Muir Woods America's 10th National Monument. When he heard of President Roosevelt's act Muir wrote, "This is the best tree-lover's monument that could possibly be found in all the forests of the world."

Today, Muir Woods attracts about 1 million people every year, and inspires them with redwoods over 260 feet high and more than 1,200 years old. Part of the Golden Gate National Parks, Muir Woods is a living and enduring symbol of John Muir's conservation ethic that nature must be preserved if humanity is to continue to thrive on this planet.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution, and honor the legacy of a great American, his vision of environmental conservation, and the truly remarkable Muir Woods National Monument.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the remainder of our time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 868.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NATIONAL QUILT MUSEUM OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 209) expressing the sense of Congress that the Museum of the American Quilter's Society, located in Paducah, Kentucky, should be designated as the "National Quilt Museum of the United States".

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 209

Whereas the Museum of the American Quilter's Society is the largest quilt museum in the world, with a total of 13,400 square feet of exhibition space and more than 150 quilts exhibited year-round in its 3 galleries;

Whereas the mission of the Museum is to educate the local, national, and international public about the art, history, and heritage of quilting;

Whereas quilts in the Museum's permanent collection are made by quilters from 44 of the 50 States and many foreign countries;

Whereas the Museum, centrally located in Paducah, Kentucky, and open to the public year-round, averages 40,000 visitors per year;

Whereas individuals from all 50 States and from more than 25 foreign countries have visited the Museum;

Whereas the Museum's Friends, an organization dedicated to supporting and sustaining the Museum, also has members in all 50 States, with 84 percent of members living more than 60 miles from the Museum;

Whereas many members of the Museum's Friends have supported the Museum annually since the Museum began in 1991;

Whereas quilts exhibited in the Museum are representative of the Nation and its cultures thanks to the wide diversity of themes and topics, quilts, and quiltmakers; and

Whereas the Museum of the American Quilter's Society has national significance and support: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that the Museum of the American Quilter's Society, located at 215 Jefferson Street, Paducah, Kentucky, should be designated as the "National Quilt Museum of the United States".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the concurrent resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

House Concurrent Resolution 209 would express the sense of Congress that the Museum of the American Quilter's Society in Paducah, Kentucky, should be designated the "National Quilt Museum of the United States." The concurrent resolution was introduced by our colleague, Representative ED WHITFIELD of Kentucky.

Since its establishment in 1991, the Museum of the American Quilting Society has collected and displayed quilts made by quilters from 44 of the 50 States. Today, with a permanent collection of more than 180 quilts and three galleries totaling 13,400 square feet of exhibit space, the facility is the largest museum in the world dedicated to the artistry of quilting and illustrates the significance of quilts and quilting to this Nation.

A friends' group comprised of members from all 50 States has provided the museum with a broad national fundraising support and advocates since its inception 17 years ago.

Mr. Speaker, House Concurrent Resolution 209 would grant recognition of the House to this museum and the art form it seeks to preserve. A museum of this size, scope, and significance appears worthy of designation as the National Quilt Museum of the United States. We have no objection to House Concurrent Resolution 209 and urge its passage.